CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

AND WHY EVEN OF YOURSELVES JUDGE YE NOT WHAT IS RIGHT?——LUKE XII. 57.

VOL. III. BOSTON, FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 28, 1824. No. 42.

THE MINOR REVIEW.

ART. 14.—*Mr Colman's Sermon, on the Proper Test of the Christian Character.*

A Sermon, entitled "*The proper test of the Christian Character*," by the Rev. HENRY COLMAN, has been lately published, and has already gone to a second edition. It was delivered March 21, 1824, in the Church in Brattle Square, Boston, and was published at the request of the hearers. We consider it a Sermon of the first class, and as meriting notice, no less for the correctness of its principles, than for the truly eloquent manner in which they are stated and defended.

We wish to make our readers acquainted with the Sermon, and for this purpose propose furnishing a few extracts from its pages. It is impossible, however, to do it justice, in the brief notice we shall give; and we attempt it only in the hope that it will induce our readers to obtain the Sermon, and read it for themselves.

The text is in 1 John iii. 7:—*Let no man deceive you; he that doeth righteousness is righteous.*

The subject of the Discourse is opened by the following statement in the first paragraph:

"The inquiry is often made, and every reflecting man has often proposed it to himself,—what does religion require; what is it to be a christian; with what attainments or character in religion may we be satisfied and feel that we are secure?"

The author, after commending this solicitude on the most important of all concerns, proceeds to notice the perplexities and doubts that are wont to arise in the minds of many well disposed persons, on account of the discordant views and requirements of different sects. The following beautiful passages are well adapted to guide, console, and establish the doubting:

"Amidst all this darkness and the turbulence of these conflicting elements, the text presents a simple and secure guide; and it appears adequate to this object, and to have been given expressly for this purpose. It stands out like one of those prominent and distinct monuments seen from afar, by which the traveller in an unknown or doubtful path shapes his course, and to which he continually turns his eyes to secure himself from the evils of taking a wrong road. Let no man, says the apostle, deceive you; he that doeth righteousness is righteous. The proper test of our religion is to be found in our moral character and lives. If you desire to know whether your fellow worshipper is a christian, inquire whether he is a good man; and he has as much religion as he has goodness, and no more; and just as far as he is faithful to his duties, honest, temperate, pure, just, kind, humble, devout, pious, he is a christian, and no farther.

"It is not the receiving of this or that creed, or the conforming to these or those rites, or the belonging to this or that church, or the being the subject of any extatic visions or raptures or powerful excitements that make men christians. In all these things there is a right and a wrong,—one thing to be chosen and another to be avoided. There is a true and a false faith,—one of which may promote and the other may prejudice your virtue. There are forms of worship which are rational, impressive, and instructive; and others, which are ridiculous, or mean, or unworthy; each of which may have its peculiar effect upon your moral character. There is such a thing, my friends, as religious experience; there is such a thing as superstition, fanaticism, delirium; and there is joy and peace in believing; there are holy affections, heavenly aspirations, the love of God and of Christ, the transports of christian hope and the sublime enthusiasm of a pure and profound devotion. There is sometimes a wild fire kindled in the imagination, which only lays waste, and dazzles and deludes us by its glare, and soon burns out, leaving the heart seared and callous; and there is too a celestial fire, sometimes burning in the soul, pouring out a divine influence through all the faculties, brightening, invigorating, warming; purifying the human heart of its dross, and sending up its incense to the throne of God. But the only unequivocal and infallible test of your religion, of your christianity, is your moral character, the moral complexion of your temper and your life."

He proceeds to speak of "opinions or faith as a test of character." "Good principles often lead to good conduct, but not always. False principles often lead to bad conduct, but not always." Whilst, on the one hand, "just and enlarged views of religion" tend to improve, purify, and exalt the character,—on the other hand, principles which are "false or limited, or low and mean, degrade the character, and nourish vice, and sometimes lead to crimes." "Though faith is *conducive* it is not *essential* to goodness; and it furnishes no unequivocal test of character."

"The dispositions with which we inquire after the truth, and with which we receive it when it is presented, the industry with which we prosecute our religious inquiries, and the concern, that we exercise that our principles of faith may have their proper influence upon our conduct, all these are connected with our moral character, must be considered when we would form a correct judgment of our religion and goodness; and must be considered, as far as they can be ascertained, when we would form a proper judgment of the religion and goodness of another; but other than this our religious opinions form no part of our moral or christian character; and every man, who has had much intercourse with the world, must have seen instances of men of correct opinions and bad lives; and on the other hand, men of erroneous and imperfect views of religion pre-eminent for their purity and goodness. In fine you can no more determine a man's religion by his belief than by his name."

Nor are forms of worship and ritual observances "an infallible test of a man's character."

"Those forms which are most impressive, natural, and instructive, are to be chosen; but from the diversity of character, education, and improvement among men, these cannot be the same to all. That form of worship, which has the best moral effect upon you, which will best serve to make you a good man, is the best for you. In the view of that Being, who searches the heart, the devout but ignorant catholic may offer as acceptable a sacrifice when counting his beads, as the enlightened christian in celebrating the praises of God in hymns breathing the inspiration of heaven or written by an angel's pen. But be the form what it may, it is no certain test of character. The heart is the seat of goodness, but no external observances afford an infallible index of the condition of the heart; and the most scrupulous, punctilious, and excessive devotion may be only the mask of dishonesty, and, like the beautiful colors reflected from the stagnant pool, serve only to cover a mass of corruption."

Nor are those "strong religious feelings," which are technically called "religious experiences," to be relied upon with confidence as a certain test of goodness. "From the nature of the case, powerful emotions must be transient. . . They do not indicate the habitual temper and state of the soul. . . . It is not the good only who are the subjects of such excitements; the *worst*, being in the intervals of calm reflection, or under particular dispensations of Providence, as often and as deeply moved as the *best* of men."

"Since then, my brethren, we can rest upon none of these with confidence as the test of our christian character, we revert again to the sound doctrine of the text—*Let no man deceive you; he that doeth righteousness is righteous.* Here is a criterion by which you may judge of yourselves and others.

"Inquire of your own heart then whether it is your supreme desire to do God's will; to improve the talents with which he has entrusted you, and to discharge the duties which he has assigned you; and whether it is your constant and habitual endeavour to conform to the precepts of Jesus, to do every thing, which they require, to abstain from every thing which they forbid, to do good in every way and to every person as you have opportunity, and to be continually aiming at the improvement of your moral character, at the maintenance and advancement of your purity and self government, your honour and integrity, your equity and benevolence to men, your resignation, piety and devotion to God. If this be your daily and habitual course of sentiment and conduct, you may look up to God with a humble and sublime complacency, assured of his favor and approbation. As far as you do this you are a christian and no farther; and you may apply this test to others, as far as you find them truly good, abounding in works of kindness, humble, temperate, pure, contented, pious, devout, you need not question their christianity."

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"The only object of the gospel is to make men virtuous and so to make them like God. If this is attained, its great ends are answered; if this is not accomplished, nothing is accomplished. The salvation, which the gospel effects is a deliverance from sin; the happiness, which it proffers, is the happiness, which springs from moral goodness.

"In every good man therefore, be his faith or his worship what it may, recognise a christian brother. You may compassionate his ignorance and strive to pour new light into his darkened mind; you may desire to correct the abuses to which you see his forms of worship are liable, and endeavour to bring him to a service more pure, spiritual, and elevating; you may lament the delusions and wanderings to which you think his mind is subject; but estimate his christian character by none of these. If you have reason to believe that he is a good man, that there is within him, deeply seated and habitually active, the true principle of religious duty and virtue, receive him to your bosom; by whatever name he is called, reverence him as a christian brother. This, my friends, is the common ground on which all christians should stand; and this, thank God, is a point in which, to a certain extent, all christians with hardly an exception are agreed. Other things in religion may be useful, nothing else in religion is essential."

The admirable sentiments of the following eloquent passage, at the close of the Sermon, must meet the approbation and the hearty concurrence of every enlarged and generous mind:

"The religion of the Gospel has nothing in it of an exclusive character. The object of Jesus was to form a peculiar people; but they were to be peculiar in being zealous of good works. It was never intended to make men partizans; to array them in hostile and conflicting sects, but to unite them under one common law of love. Wherever there is a pure heart, there is the temple in which God is worshipped, and where his presence is felt. Wherever the whole soul and life are devoted to virtue, there the image of God is reflected and religion displays its noblest triumphs. The only passport to heaven is moral purity. The happiness of heaven can flow only from goodness. Moral goodness is the exclusive property of no sect and no religion; and the various diverging paths, which now appear so distant from each other will be followed up to one common center. Here at last the truly good, 'gathered out of all nations and kindred and people and tongues,' will be brought together by the all-powerful and attractive law of sympathy, to adore that immaculate and peerless goodness, of which their souls have been always enamoured; and to render a joint homage to their common Father, the holiest and best of Beings, to whom with different degrees of light and under different forms of worship, according to the best guidance, which they could obtain, their affections and lives have been devoted."

We do not profess to have given anything like an analysis of this discourse. Our object has been to bring it to the notice of our readers. From the copious extracts we have given, it will be readily perceived, that it is a performance of superior merit. The subject treated is one of the first importance. No mistakes are so common, or so fatal, as those which relate to the proper test of the christian character. The prevalent style of preaching of the present day, not only among the Calvinistic clergy, but also with most of the minor religious sects, has led a large portion of the people into the habit of testing their goodness by an entirely false standard. The great inquiry is,—Do you embrace the true orthodox faith? Have your religious feelings and exercises been such as may be denominated "genuine religious experience?"

The religious habits of the people of New England are so strict and exemplary, that comparatively little detriment has yet arisen from this constant application to a false standard of goodness. The evil consequences that might have been expected, though not wholly prevented, have nevertheless been in some degree counteracted by the strong sense of propriety and generally correct principles of the people. But that this would continue to be the case for any length of time, there is little ground to hope. Anything, then, whose tendency is to expose and bring into deserved disrepute, this false and ruinous test of character, must be received with great satisfaction by every man of sober thought and reasonable principles. Such is the design, and such, we think, is eminently the tendency of Mr COLMAN's Sermon. That it may produce this effect is our earnest wish; and to this end we hope and trust it will be extensively read.

NOTES UPON THE BIBLE.

What reason has the Christian to believe, that the sacred volume, which he receives as the rule of faith and guide of life, has come down to him in a pure and uncorrupted state? By what means was it preserved, with what care has it been transmitted down, and what assurance can he feel, that it has not in a course of so many centuries undergone such changes in the text, as no longer to present the same system of revealed truth, as it did to those who first read its pages?

These are questions that occur to every reflecting man, and they admit of an answer satisfactory to the reasonable inquirer.

It will require but few observations, I think, to remove all apprehension of the text of the New Testament having been corrupted, either by accident or design, in the first ages; and it will be equally easy to show, that it was not corrupted at a later period; and that it exists now, to all essential purposes, in its original purity.

In a book, which relates to no subject of great and general interest, which was therefore read by but few persons, and not frequently copied, an error introduced into an early copy might pass so long unperceived, as to render its detection difficult, and perhaps at length impossible. But the case with our sacred writings is extremely different from this. By every Christian they were regarded as of unspeakable importance. They were sought for and read by all with the deepest interest. Copies of course were soon multiplied. They were in the possession of all the churches. They were read with eagerness, not only by individuals in private, but in public on the Lord's Day, constituting a regular part of the service of the religious assemblies. And this public and private use of them, and consequent demand for copies, was not limited to a narrow region, and a few places. It extended, from the very first, to a vast number of places, in countries far distant from each other. By this multiplication of copies, indeed, the chances were increased for single errors in copying; but, at the same time, the means of correcting any such errors were increased in equal proportion; for the opportunities of comparing copies were increased, and thus the opportunity for correcting mistakes. Now, under such circumstances, to vitiate the text only in a single point by introducing a false reading designedly, and transferring it to all the copies was a task too arduous to be attempted, or thought of. So great was the number of those, who were intimately acquainted with the sacred books, and, being educated in the knowledge of them, and hearing them constantly read, were qualified to perceive any alteration they should undergo, that there was scarcely a possibility that a false reading of any importance should escape unnoticed, and get established as a part of the text.

Besides this, the New Testament was at an early period translated into as many languages, as were spoken by the converts to Christianity. What an additional task is here imposed upon the corrupter of the sacred text!—He has not a few copies only, and in one language, to alter. That he may accomplish his design to any purpose, he must have access to hundreds of copies, in different languages, and in distant countries; a labour which no individual or body of men could be supposed to undertake without some very strong and obvious motive.

Who then are the persons, that are to be suspected of having engaged with such active zeal in the laborious task of altering the Christian Scriptures, and what strong inducement to do it has exposed them to the suspicion? Not Christians themselves, most certainly. They must feel a powerful interest in preserving the purity of those writings, which are the foundation of their faith, the rule of their lives, and for which they have been ready to give up their lives. It is utterly incredible that sincere Christians should deliberately set themselves to falsify, and thus to destroy or weaken the authority of their own sacred books. And can we with much better reason imagine the task to be assumed by the enemies of Christianity? Why should they set themselves to *alter* and *corrupt* books, which it was so much easier for them to *destroy?* Why resort to a process so tedious and difficult, and of extremely precarious success, as that of attempting to weaken the authority, or pervert the design of the Scriptures by corrupting the text; while the far more obvious and practicable scheme for accomplishing their purpose was before them; that of destroying the writings themselves? This is not merely conjecture or opinion. It is a judgment founded on evidence and fact. In the persecutions to which the early Christians were exposed, we know that the destruction of their books was attempted, and as far as the civil power could do it, carried into effect. But we have no historical evidence that the plan of destroying their value and use by corrupting the text was ever thought of.

The only suspicion of such a design and attempt, which is entitled to a moment's consideration, falls upon those, who holding opinions different from other Christians, and separating from them on that account, had the name of *Heretics*. We may well suppose that many of those, who in the first ages were converted to the Christian faith, would find it not easy to divest themselves immediately of all the prejudices of their previous heathen education. They would be inclined to retain and incorporate into their new religion, whatever opinions, connected with the old, they did not find explicitly condemned; and would naturally seek such support for them in the sacred writings, as could be derived from any fair interpretation of those writings. But should they be emboldened to proceed farther than this, should they, not satisfied with what could be effected by interpretation, venture to falsify the text itself, in order to bring their present to a conformity with their former faith, to what easy and certain detection must the fraud have been exposed! The real fact is, that the sects into which Christians were early divided, instead of giving us reason to *suspect* at the present day, that the Scriptures *may* have been corrupted for the purpose of giving support to the peculiar doctrines of any one party, *assure* us that no such corruption, had it been attempted, could have passed down undetected. The zeal of *all* to maintain their own peculiarities, and to find a support for them in the Scriptures, must have been an effectual security, if not against the attempt, at least against the success of an attempt by *any* to alter the sacred text, so as to make it speak the language of a party. All felt an equal interest in guarding the book, to which all alike appealed, against being corrupted by others. Now as there has never been a time since the first promulgation of the gospel, when there were not sects, which were a mutual check to each other, and which exercised a jealous vigilance to protect the sacred writings, which they all held in equal reverence, from suffering any change; so there never *could* have been a combination to alter the Scriptures for the purpose of adjusting them to any particular system of doctrines. And without such a combination, it is manifest that any attempt for such a purpose must be wholly ineffectual.

We have here then one of the instances, and many such there are, in which we are called to admire the wisdom of God, in converting human imperfection and even human depravity into instruments for accomplishing some of its kindest purposes. That variety of opinions, which grew out of the imperfection of the human faculties, and the unfaithful use of them, together with that jealousy, which awakens the suspicion of bad designs and unfair practices in those, who belong to an opposite party, or hold offensive opinions, have proved a more effectual restraint, than could otherwise have been imposed, upon a disposition to corrupt the sacred text; and have furnished the surest means of discovery, in case of an attempt to do it. However, therefore, we may have occasion to condemn the violence of sectarian zeal, by which Christians have sometimes disgraced their profession, and the spirit of mutual hostility and persecution with which they have been armed, and to lament the evils which they have drawn after them; we have yet to console ourselves, that they have not been without their important uses, since we owe to them one of the most conclusive arguments for the integrity of our sacred books, and their unadulterated purity. (*To be continued,—from the Christian Examiner.*)

RIDICULE.

How dangerous a gift is the power of ridicule! It is most potent to unmask the pretender, and brand the hypocrite;—yet how often has it dissipated those gay illusions, which beguile the rough path of life,—how often, at its dread presence, have the honest boasts of patriotism, the warm expressions of piety, the generous purposes of beneficence, faltered on the lips, and died away in the heart.

Religion was designed by Heaven for the benefit of man alone. It teaches us to moderate our desires, calm our passions, and to be useful and beneficent to one another; and whatever does not contribute to these ends, ought not to be called by that name.

God forbid that the search after truth should be discouraged, for fear of its consequences! The consequence of truth may be subversive of systems of superstition, but they never can be injurious to the rights, or well-founded expectations of the human race.—*Bishop Watson.*

CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1824.

Evangelical Missionary Society. The anniversary of this Society was held in the vestry of Rev. Dr Channing's church, on Wednesday evening. After transacting the usual business, the Society proceeded to the Church, to attend the public services, which commenced at half past 7 o'clock. The following was the order of service:

1. *Anthem*—Awake, put on thy strength, &c.
2. Prayer.
3. *Air*—How beautiful are the feet, &c.
Chorus—The Lord gave the word, &c.
4. *Sermon*—by Rev. Mr Bailey, of Pelham.
5. Prayer.
6. *Anthem*, Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord
7. Collection.
8. *Anthem*—Holy Lord God of Hosts, &c.
Benediction.

The Sermon was able and appropriate, and was listened to with attention by a crowded house. The music, both vocal and on the organ, (as was anticipated from the distinguished performers who kindly consented to assist on the occasion) was of the very first style, and commanded the praise of the most respectable auditory which we have had at any time the happiness to meet. It was, indeed, such as music ought always to be on occasions like this.

It gives us great satisfaction to be able to state that the excellent purposes of this Society, (judging from the character of the audience, and the very liberal contribution, viz. $288.70) are beginning to be duly appreciated. We hope that those who have the interests and usefulness of the Society at heart, will continue their exertions to make it more extensively known, and to increase the list of annual and life subscribers.

The following is a statement of moneys received into the treasury, since April 16:

Ladies in Dr Lowell's Society, Boston	$69.92
" Sewing Society, in do.	13.63
Ladies in Rev. Mr Clark's Society, Norton	12.67
Friend in Taunton, by Rev. Mr Clark	3.00
In a blank envelope	1.00
Collection after Mr Bailey's Sermon	288.70
Friend not present at do.	2.00
Friend in Eastham, by Rev. Mr Shaw	2.00
A life subscription, by the hands of Rev. Mr Walker, of Charlestown	30.00
Annual subscriptions	11.00

Massachusetts Convention. The Massachusetts Convention of Congregational Ministers met on Wednesday evening, in the new Court House. The business of the meeting was transacted with unusual harmony. It was highly pleasing to witness the appearance of good feelings that was universally manifested. It ought not, indeed, to be a matter of surprise, that the ministers of a benevolent religion should meet and proceed without contention, in regulating the concerns of the most interesting of all charities. Considering, however, the unhappy differences that have subsisted for a few years past, between what are called the *orthodox* and the *liberal* clergy, it was seriously apprehended that they would not easily be brought again to act in concert, or to exercise that spirit of mutual conciliation, (in view of what they deem important differences,) which it is one of the greatest triumphs of our religion to effect.

At present, however, there appears a disposition to conduct their affairs, as a convention, in harmony. This is an important step in the path of conciliation, and we doubt not that, as our orthodox brethren become better acquainted with the characters, religious feelings, and style of preaching of the liberal clergy, they will be ready to acknowledge that they have mistaken their views and principles, and that the alarm which they have so industriously spread on this subject, was false and unfounded. So far as the opposition which liberal men have received, has proceeded from an honest apprehension of the injurious tendency of their principles, so far we respect this opposition, however much we may condemn the means that may have been resorted to, to render it efficient.—At the same time it seems proper to remark, that so far as these apprehensions are found to be without cause, so far it is the duty of the Orthodox to acknowledge their mistakes and rectify their mis-statements. That they are not only without cause, but in the highest degree unjust and false, we have the most unshaken conviction, and we are happy to perceive indications that this conviction is gaining ground among those who have been accustomed to think and speak unkindly of us.—May the time soon come when the *true test* of the christian character shall be established in the minds of all Christians; when a man's goodness shall be determined, not by the *peculiarities* or the *length* of his *creed*, but by the character he sustains and the temper he uniformly manifests in his intercourse with the world.

Religious Charities. The following is a statement of some of the religious charities in this city, during the present week:

Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, Piety, & Charity, First Church	38.52
Evangelical Missionary Society	288.70
Convention of Congregational Ministers	332.93
Mass. Missionary Society, in Old South	107.00
American Tract Society, in do	48.00

On Tuesday P. M. an appropriate and eloquent Discourse was delivered, in the Church in Chauncy place, by the Rev. Henry Colman, before the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, Piety, and Charity. Contribution $38.52.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church is now, and has been for some time past, in session in Baltimore. They have resolved to divide the New England Conference, by constituting a new one from the eastern section, to be called the "Maine Conference."

Mr Scott. Our readers will notice on this page, a short communication signed 'V,' in relation to Dr Scott's letter on prayer meetings and evening meetings, which we lately published. It was natural that some surprise should have been felt that a gentleman of Dr Scott's reputed sentiments should have expressed himself so unequivocally in opposition to these meetings. He had undoubtedly experienced evils resulting from them, which he thought justified him in thus bearing his testimony against them. Those of our readers, who feel any doubt respecting the author of the letter, may be assured that it is the same who has published the "Commentary" and "Force of Truth."

OCCASIONAL.

MR PICKERING'S PAMPHLET.

A large pamphlet has lately been published by the Hon. Timothy Pickering, in reference to what is called the *Cunningham Correspondence*. The late president Adams, and his son John Q. Adams, are both handled with great severity in this pamphlet. An article appeared in the last Saturday's Centinel on this subject, in which the writer appears to animadvert with some severity on Mr Pickering, for publishing this pamphlet at this time.

It is apprehended that this pamphlet may have an unfavourable influence on the feelings of many in relation to the election of Mr Adams to the Presidency. Five hundred copies of Mr Pickering's pamphlet are said to have been sent by express to Washington.

MISSOURI INDIANS.

In a late number of the Nashville Gazette there is an article in which strong apprehensions are expressed that hostilities are about commencing by the Indians on the Missouri. And it is intimated that the subject is worthy the immediate notice and attention of government.

The restiveness and disposition to outrage manifested by the Indians is not to us a subject of surprise.—The injustice with which they have been treated, with impunity, by unprincipled adventurers, on their borders, has very naturally driven them to retaliate. Instead of "revenging their insolence," as some of our scribblers talk, we would with all due deference to our public authorities, say that it seems to us that it rather becomes our government, to send a deputation to inquire into their grievances and redress them.—That they have grievances, and suffer wrongs, cannot be doubted by any reflecting person who is acquainted with the course of events in relation to them.

BRITISH COMMERCE WITH AMERICA.

In the British Parliament, (House of Lords) on the 16 of March, the Marquis of Landsdown moved, that His Majesty be requested to confirm the independence of the South American States. The increased advantages of Commerce to be derived from this measure, appeared to be the principal motive for recommending this measure.

Lord Liverpool, in some remarks on this motion, gave the following statement of the amount of the Commerce of British manufactures, with the different parts of the world.

"If any one wishes to know the commerce of America generally, compared with the rest of the world, I will state in round numbers, that the whole of the commerce of British manufactures to every part of the world is £43,000,000; of that 21,000,000 goes to Europe; of the remaining 22,000,000, 17,000,000 is to North and South America, and about 5,000,000 to the East Indies."

CANADA.

It is rumoured in Canada, that the British ministry propose to form a Union of all the British provinces in North America, and to place at their head a Royal Duke as Vice Roy. A Quebec paper says:—"We do not know what a want of information may lead ministers to adopt. There is one thing of which we are certain, viz. that no change of the existing Constitutions of the Canadas can be made, which will either answer the views of the promoters of these changes, or be satisfactory to the great majority of the people of both provinces."

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Christian Register.

Translation of the New Testament.

Mr Reed.—I remember an able discourse delivered by Dr Pearson, at the Andover Institution, advocating a new translation of the Scriptures. I know not how many new translations have been made of the New Testament. But one thing is certain;—these several translators may be considered a committee debating the question,—*Is a new translation needed?*—They have consulted the public sentiment, in various ways, at different times, and in different countries,—and have decided that the sacred text is *not* fairly represented by the common translation, and that the duty of representing it pure, is paramount to every christian claim. The time for a new translation is, when a new translation can be made; and this is, whenever scholars can be induced to begin. I am perfectly aware of the objections to making a new translation. But all these have been encountered, and Scott's Commentary is not only a translation, but a body of divinity.

What complaints can be offered to an effort of this kind now, which have not been already offered, and which will not be for ever offered? The present state of public sentiment is peculiarly favourable for this task, and the call first raised by learned theologians, is now re-echoed through the Christian churches. Omitting the suggestions and plans already discussed, I would with modest deference ask, if all proposals would not harmonize in one idea, viz. to publish a literal translation of Griesbach's text, and have it understood that this text is the guide and standard? As this is the authentic Greek text, acknowledged by all parties, it ought to be translated literally, and circulated as generally among English readers, as Griesbach's is among scholars.

Are Greek students the *only* ones to be benefited by the *pure* Scriptures? What possible objection can there be to a true representation of God's word? I would then modestly ask, if the whole question may not be settled by giving to the public a literal translation of *this received Greek text*, and by calling it "*Griesbach's text*"? Who could object to this scheme or this title? All plans must come to this at last. With Griesbach's version of the New Testament, literally translated, no scholar can quarrel, except as a sectarian; and as such, all men will differ, and therefore this evil must be met at whatever time a translation is attempted. If this work is to be undertaken, let an able and full commentary be first published "to prepare the way before it." This introductory step will call out the requisite discussions, produce necessary information, and guard against errors of haste.

C. B. H.

For the Christian Register.

Mr Reed.—I noticed in your paper of May 7, a letter of Dr Scott, on the subject of Prayer Meetings, from the character of which it has been questioned by some whether it could have been written by Dr Scott, the celebrated Commentator. Will you be so kind as to inform your readers whether the author of the abovenamed letter was Dr Scott, the author of the Force of truth, whose Family Bible is so industriously circulated by the Orthodox—or whether it was some "*heretic*" of that name? V.

For the Christian Register.

Bible Society of Massachusetts.

The XVth anniversary discourse is to be delivered, in First Church, on Thursday next, at eleven o'clock A. M. by the Rev. Tho's Gray, of Roxbury, before "*The Bible Society of Massachusetts.* After which there will be a collection for the benevolent objects of the Institution. The Society will remain, after service, to transact its annual business.

From the Centinel.

Qualifications for a President of the United States.

Mr Editor. In reading the letters from Gen. Jackson to Mr Monroe, which have been recently published, I observed the following passage:—"Every one knew I esteemed Mr Madison as one of the best of men, and a great civilian, but I always believed that the mind of a Philosopher could not *dwell* on blood and carnage with any composure, and of course not well fitted for a stormy sea." *Jackson's Letter*, "*Jan.* 6*th*, 1817."

In this passage we have Gen. Jackson's reason for preferring Mr Monroe to Mr Madison, for President of the United States. He esteemed Mr Madison "as one of the best of men, and a great civilian," yet he was not a warrior but "a philosopher,"—and the General "always *believed*, that the mind of a philosopher, could not *dwell* upon blood and carnage *with any composure*."

What then is a "philosopher?"—"A man deep in knowledge, either moral or natural."—So says *Walker*. Two propositions seem to be clearly implied in the language of the General:

1. That men who can "dwell upon blood and carnage with composure" are not "philosophers,"—not men "deep in knowledge."

2. That it is more important to a nation that its Chief Magistrate should be a war character, than that he should be "a man deep in knowledge, either moral or natural."

If the first proposition be correct, we may hope that wars will cease, as soon as the several countries shall be blessed with men "deep in knowledge" to rule over them. It should therefore be the aim of every patriot to multiply men of this character, and to raise them to power. For, being so "deep in knowledge" as to abhor "blood and carnage," they will readily devise more equitable methods than war, for the adjustment of differences.

In regard to the second proposition, it may be observed—That the chief end of government ought not to be "blood and carnage," but peace, security, and happiness. And the history of the world clearly shows, that great calamities are to be expected, when men are in power who thirst for military glory, and who can "dwell with composure" on the "blood and carnage" of war.

If the people of the United States are desirous of more "blood and carnage," and wish that their next President should be a man who can "dwell with composure" on such scenes of horror, Gen. Jackson may probably be the successful candidate. Ample evidence can be produced that he possesses in a high degree that trait of character which he deemed of more importance in a president than all the wisdom of a philosopher.

Massachusetts.

From the Palladium.

Much has been said and written against the existing laws requiring imprisonment of debtors, as not only barbarous, but ineffectual for rendering the desired benefit to creditors. A general proclamation has been made throughout the country for the abolishment of imprisonment for debt, but a substitute therefor has never been presented to the public, and very dangerous consequences must inevitably attend the annihilation of the present existing laws, without some judicious provision instead; and a disinterested effort has been made by an individual of this city, eminent for his *talents* and *integrity*, who has devoted about six months of close application to the subject of devising a system, which shall more effectually secure *justice to the creditor*, and *protect the debtor from imprisonment;* and the result of his labours is just completed in manuscript; with a perusal of which I have been indulged, and with its *well* guarded provisions I am delighted and pleased. While it appears to protect the creditor as completely from the fraudulent artificer, as human art can devise, it is equally effectual in its lenient provisions for protecting the honest, oppressed debtor from disgrace and imprisonment. A method for designating the honest from the fraudulent debtor, which the sufferings of society have imperiously demanded, is admirably engrafted into this system.

A critical review of this work would occupy many pages for recording just commendations, and in pointing out the complete revolution and the beneficial influence it would produce in the *morals* of society.

The author of this system is Benjamin Dearborn, Esq. *who deserves well of his country* for many useful improvements in the arts, and whose life has been almost incessantly devoted toward promoting the interest of the community, and alleviating the distresses and wants of the suffering and oppressed.

I do most sincerely hope that the system will shortly be published from the proceeds of a generous subscription, which shall ensure a very extensive circulation, at least, thro' the United States, and be duly appreciated by an enlightened public. I.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Virginia University. Mr W. F. Gilmer, of Richmond, has sailed for England to procure a library, apparatus, &c. for the University of Virginia.

African Free School. At an examination of the scholars of the Afr[illegible]an free school in New York, on the 7th inst. about 600 interesting black children were present. All were neatly dressed, behaved with propriety, and performed their exercises in reading, speaking, &c. with surprising promptness and accuracy. The girls exhibited fine specimens of knitting, needlework, &c. To those people who are always doing good, the Quakers, are the black children chiefly indebted for the advantages they enjoy. *Hamp. Gaz.*

Gardiner Lyceum, (Me.) The Trustees have made arrangements for the accomodation of such persons, as may wish to avail themselves of its privileges for a few months, without entering the regular classes and spending 3 years. They have voted to establish *Winter Classes*, to commence on the 3d Wednesday of Nov. and close in April; but they advise applicants to attend as early as August. The fees of tuition will be $10; and the members may attend *gratis* all lectures relating to the branches which they study. At present, these classes will be, 1. A class in *Surveying*. 2. In *Navigation*. 3. In *Carpentry* and *Civil Architecture*. 4. In *Chemistry*. Other winter classes may hereafter be formed. *Mirror.*

Internal Improvement. An appropriate address was delivered by Mr Cope, of Philadelphia, on the occasion of commencing the Chesapeak and Delaware Canal. In the course of his remarks, he referred those who doubted the practicability of accomplishing their undertaking, to the enterprising spirit, which had been exhibited in constructing the New-York Canal, and to the persevering labors of the Hollanders, now engaged in forming a canal, fifty miles in extent, and of sufficient depth to float an eighty gun ship through a spongy morass, where the fluid earth is excavated by scoop nets instead of the spade. He enthusiastically assured the audience, that some of them might live to witness "the fountains of Lake Erie and the Alleghany river, intermingling with the tide of the Delaware; and to see the treasures of human industry, flow, by means of canals, from the Ohio, the Mississippi, and the Missouri, to our wharves in Philadelphia."

Salem Obs.

Bathing. The season is approaching, when the free use of the Bath, is not only pleasant, but highly conducive to health. The important advantages arising from the occasional indulgence of this luxury are not sufficiently appreciated; it gives tone to the system, promotes perspiration, and gives an elasticity to the spirits, by relieving, from that languor and debility which prevails during the warm months.

Census of Northampton. An enumeration of the inhabitants of this town has been recently made, under the direction of the selectmen, for the purpose of ascertaining the number of rateable polls, children in the several school districts, persons not vaccinated, &c. The total number of inhabitants is 3278—increase since August, 1820, 424—males, 1647; number of families, 380—average number of persons to a family, 656—number of colored people, 60—increase of colored persons since the census of 1820, 33. *Hamp. Gaz.*

STATUE OF WASHINGTON. The equestrian statue of Washington, has just been finished by the joint skill and labour of Messrs Causici, and Perscico, two Italian artists and disciples of the celebrated Canova. The figure of Washington is seven feet in height, and the horse and pedestal in exact proportion. They are so calculated, that when seen from the ground, they may appear as large as life. The likeness of the hero is very striking, as compared with the best portraits of him we have seen. His attitude is also imposing, with his arm extended in the act of pointing, the whole image exhibiting the dignity and majesty of his person to the best advantage. Col. Trumbull and other gentlemen, who were intimately acquainted with Washington, pronounce it to be an exact representation both of the form and feature of the Father of his country. The figure of the war-horse, "whose neck is clothed with thunder," is not less impressive than that of his rider. His head appears to us a perfect model, and indeed we should not know how any part of the animal could be altered for the better. He is represented in the attitude of leaping, and by an ingenious device of the artists rests entirely upon his hind legs. *N. Y. Statesman.*

STEAM ENGINE. Mr John Babcock, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, has obtained a patent for his invention in the method of generating steam, of high temperature, without the use of a boiler.

40 casks of Salmon have been received at N. York, from the Bay of Chaleur, via the St Lawrence, Lake Champlain and the Northern Canal.

Some alarm from the rise of the waters of the Mississippi, had occurred early in May; but had, in some degree subsided, at the last dates from N. Orleans.

A Philadelphia writer recommends the introduction of Spanish Calesas, as Hackneys. They are one horse carriages, hung so low, that a single step only is required.

A STEAM BOAT, called the John Marshall, has been built at New York in 31 days. She is intended as a packet between that city and Norwalk, Con,

FIRE. The United States establishment at Harper's Ferry, Vir. for the manufactory of Arms, has been burnt. Public loss $10,000.

CONNECTICUT. At a meeting of Members of the Legislature held in the Representatives' Chamber, the Hon. David Hill, of the Senate, in the Chair, and the Hon. John Russ, of the other House, Secretary,—a ballot was taken for a nomination of the most suitable candidate for the office of President of the U. States; when the numbers were:—For

Hon.	John Quincy Adams, - - -	124
"	Andrew Jackson, - - - -	14
"	William H. Crawford, - - -	7
"	Henry Clay, - - - - -	2

The following Resolution was then adopted:

Whereas, our fellow citizens in different parts of the country have expressed their opinion on the merits of the several candidates for the office of President of the U. States, and feeling as we do, a deep interest in the issue of the approaching election—

Resolved, That we have the fullest confidence in the talents, integrity, and patriotism of John Quincy Adams, and do therefore recommend him to our Republican fellow citizens, as the most suitable candidate for the office of President of the United States.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. The Legislature of N. H. will convene at Concord, on Wednesday next, and, it is expected, will have to choose a Governor.

Judge Drury, of Rhode-Island, is appointed Collector of the port of Bristol.

THE WHITE MOUNTAINS. A line of stages is now established between Portland and Conway, N. H. to run twice a week. This with the convenience of a steam boat passage, from Boston to Portland, must render a jaunt to the White-mountains, a very pleasant excursion to the Bostonians.

CHEAP TRAVELLING. The stage fare from Boston to Portland in the "Accomodation Stage" is only *four dollars*; one dollar hence to Newburyport, one from Newburyport to Portsmouth, and two thence to Portland. *Patriot.*

GEORGIA. For some time past the Savannah papers have teemed with communications on Internal Improvements, proposed to be effected in the State of Georgia. One of the improvements is a Canal, about 15 miles long, projected between the Ogeechee and Savannah Rivers; the other plans are to open the navigation of the Oakmulgee and Oconee Rivers. It appears that funds had been formerly appropriated for the improvement of the latter two Rivers, but of so small an amount as to be entirely inadequate to the object in view. The removal of the obstructions in these Rivers would open a steam boat navigation as far as Macon and Milledgeville, and entirely supersede, it is said, the wagoning to Augusta, a distance of from eighty to one hundred miles. *Charles. Cour.*

INDIANA WINE. In the past season, the cultivators of the vine have had the most flattering success. At Vevay, Indiana, six persons alone manufactured 5500 gallons of good wine.

ILLINOIS. Letters from Illinois state that party spirit runs very high in that state, with respect to a Convention for the purpose of introducing slavery. It is said that both parties are equally confident of success. Such is the feeling, that the ordinary intercourse between families who are divided upon this question, is interrupted. *N. Y. Com. Adv.*

Mr Roffignac is re-elected Mayor of New-Orleans, without opposition. The French candidates for Aldermen, were elected in all the Wards.

DUELLING. A New Orleans paper, of May 7th, states that a personal dispute between two respectable citizens of that place, was that morning decided in single combat with swords, one of whom was thrust through the body, and instantly expired.

An alarm took place yesterday forenoon at the Friends' Meeting-House in Rose-street during the service. The building was recently erected, and being much crowded some of the beams or posts settled a little, and excited an apprehension that the house was falling to the ground. In the general movement of the congregation which took place under this impression, several persons were slightly injured, and several of the ladies fainted, but we are happy to learn that none were severely wounded. *N. Y. paper.*

CAUTION TO MOTHERS. A few days since, in the village of Brooklyn, (Long-Island) a child was left tied in a chair, while the mother attended to her domestic concerns in the kitchen. On her return, she beheld with agony, that her little innocent had slipped down in such a manner as to be caught by the neck! It was entirely dead.

NEWS PAPERS. The Editor of the American Watchman acknowleges the receipt of a new paper printed in Alabama, which contained proposals for publishing five other new papers.

NEW EXCHANGE. We understand the merchants of this city have in contemplation to establish an Exchange at a place of general resort, to facilitate the transaction of the increasing business of the place. Such an arrangement, we should suppose, would be advantageous both to the buyer and seller.—*Albany Adv.*

UNPARDONABLE IGNORANCE. It will be seen by the election returns in our paper to-day that the contest in Hanover county was decided by the casting vote of the Sheriff. A friend of Mr Davis, mentions, among other causes of his defeat, that his opponent, represented to the people that Mr D. was in favour of Mr Clay for the next presidency—that Mr Clay was in favour of the Tariff Bill—and that the Tariff Bill prohibited the farmers from *planting* corn and tobacco! At this tale the people of Hanover stretched wide their eyes, and with uplifted hands, greatly marvelled who this Mr Clay could be, (although he was born in the same county,) wondered why he should be in favour of the Tariff Bill, and how the Tariff Bill could keep them from planting corn and tobacco—and unable to solve the difficulty, they voted against their old and faithful representative! In this country, where the means of acquiring information is of such easy attainment, (particularly in Hanover, the farthest extremity of which is not much more than twenty miles from Richmond) such a circumstance as the above is unpardonable. Are such men capable of enjoying liberty? or do they deserve it? *Lynchburgh Virginian.*

A man named Ebenezer Pearce, jr was lately found dead in the road in the town of Amsterdam, N. Y. He had drunk a quart of cider brandy, and after going about a quarter of a mile fell, with his face in the mud and water, and in that situation was suffocated. A warning to drunkards.

CANAL REVENUE. During the first five days of Canal navigation, the Collector at Albany received upwards of *seven thousand dollars* for toll; in one instance a single boat paid upwards of $200. From 40 to 60 boats pass the lock at that city daily.

BURLINGTON CANAL. The commissioners have advertised to receive proposals for constructing a Canal, 12 feet deep and 72 feet wide, from Burlington Bay to Lake Ontario. It is intended to be large enough for for sloops of war, and will furnish the Canadians with the best harbor on that lake. It is 1870 feet in length. *Ontario Rep.*

PLYMOUTH BEACH. A bill has passed the House of Representatives, in Congress, without opposition, making an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars for repairing Plymouth Beach. The bill provides that the repairs shall be made in such a manner as the President shall direct.

THE CHEROKEES. The Cherokee delegation at Washington, in a letter addressed to the editors of the National Intelligencer, say:—

If the fell war-hoop should ever be raised against us, to dispossess us of our lands, we will gratify the delegation of Georgia, in their present earnestness to see us removed or destroyed, by adding additional fertility to our land, by a deposit of our body and our bones—for we are resolved never to leave them, but by a parting from them and our lives together. How the Christians of America, and of the world, will view their attempt upon our rights—this effort to force a kind and just president to violate the faith of treaties, and dip his fingers in our blood, it is not for us Indians to say; but our cause is with God, and good men, and there we are willing to leave it.

PRETENDED KING OF FRANCE. An individual has lately arrived in Washington, asserting that he is the son of Louis XVI. of France, who has been a long time a prisoner in the Island of Cuba, and now requests the aid of the United States in restoring him to the throne of France, where he will aim to give peace to the world and happiness to the republic.

Gov. Coles, of Illinois, has been prosecuted for manumitting his slaves, and settling them in the state. He had neglected some formalities required by law, of which he was not aware, as the law had not at the time been promulgated.

EAST CHELMSFORD. We are authorized to state that that part of Chelmsford which contains the Merrimack Manufacturing Company's Factories, is hereafter to be known by the name of East Chelmsford, in which a Post Office is established, and J. C. Morrill appointed Post Master.

The birth day of Washington was celebrated at Curacoa, on the 22nd Feb. by a "sumptuous dinner," of which both English and Americans partook.

The first general quarterly meeting of the *London Mechanics' Institution* was held in that city on the 3d of March, and the report of the Committee read. It appears that this Society has commenced its operations with the most flattering anticipations of success. It consists already of 1300 members, and a course of Lectures on Mechanical Philosophy are now regularly delivered. Preparations are also making to establish separate courses on Chemistry and Mineralogy, and the gentleman to deliver the latter has already been appointed. Professor Milligan is the Lecturer on Mechanical Philosophy, and Professor Taylor is the one appointed for Mineralogy.

The extraordinary clock, in the possession of Mr Burt, of this city, invented by a native of Exeter, upwards of a hundred years since, performed its exclusive movement on the 29th February, being leap year. The mechanism must be curious indeed, when we consider the principal wheel revolves but once in four years, and requires to be regulated once only in a century. *Exeter (Eng.) Post.*

CAST-IRON CHURCH. St George's Church, Liverpool, is an object of considerable architectural interest for its taste, and as having been nearly the first cast-iron church erected in the kingdom. The whole of the frame-work of the windows, doors, pillars, groins, roof, pulpit, and ornamental enrichments, are of cast-iron. The length is 119 feet; the breadth 47. It is ornamented by a splendid cast window of stained glass. *Mechanic's Mag.*

The SMALL POX has been completely eradicated in Denmark, and almost so in Prussia, by vaccination.—In the former, the means of prevention are more decisive than any where else; no individual being allowed church confirmation, admitted to any school, bound apprentice to any trade, or married, who has not been vaccinated or previously had the small pox.

MEXICO.

Mexican papers to the 19th ult. are received at Philadelphia. They contain a copy of a private communication of the ex-emperor Iturbide, dated 2nd Nov. 1823, to King Ferdinand, and obtained through bribery, at Madrid, by a friend of Mexican independence. Iturbide stated to the King of Spain, that all his movements in Mexico had been studiously adapted to the purpose of retaining the throne of that country for a Spanish Bourbon; that he intentionally abstained from reducing the Castle of St Juan de Ulua, as he might have done in the beginning, with a view to leave a *point d'appui* for the royal cause; that the natives of Mexico are incapable of governing themselves, &c.

The Madrid correspondents of the Mexican government are of opinion that Iturbide's departure from Italy for England was concerted with the Holy Alliance and Ferdinand, and that he is acting as their instrument against Mexican independence.

The committee on public credit of the Mexican Congress reported a bill on the 17th of March, for acknowledging and funding the debts contracted by different governments of Mexico, since the 17th Sep. 1810, the whole amount of which is stated to be only $40,725,000.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Regular files of London papers to April 7th have been received at New York. The English papers contain no political news of importance.

The following is an extract from a speech of Mr Canning, in a debate in the House of Commons, April 2nd, on the money concerns of the nation:—

"We well know, that at this moment there is scarcely a power in Europe that is not collecting from the capitalists of Great Britain the sinews of war—there is scarcely a power that does not look for resources to the exchequer of our exchange. (Hear, hear.) I do not mean to justify the moral character of such loans; but we all are aware that our monied men lend indiscriminately to all parties; and if, in former times, English captains have led adverse fleets into action, so those, who are now the Captains' Captains, "the true lords of Europe"—I mean the bankers of this metropolis; (hear, hear,)—are furnishing arms to those who are contending against each other. (Hear, hear!) Therefore, let me not be told, that if I throw away the Foreign Enlistment Bill, and the Alien Bill, I may look for security in the morality of our money-lenders, (Hear, hear, and laughter.) No, no—let Ferdinand himself, to-morrow, shew signs of strength, and a determination to fit out an armament, and the troops and fleets of Spain, raised by British capital, will sail from your ports to strangle infant liberty in South America. (Hear!) I defy you to prevent it, I defy you to shew any thing in the morality of late pecuniary transactions to insure you against such an event."

Further from Europe. By the way of Quebec, intelligence has been received from London, to the 13th April. The misunderstanding between England and Algiers is not yet adjusted. Formal notice has been given by the British government, of the blockade of the port of Algiers. We make the following extracts respecting Algiers and Greece:—

Intelligence has been received from the British squadron off Algiers. Admiral H. B. Neale was off that port in the Revenge, with five frigates; the Dey had refused to treat, and was making preparations to sustain a bombardment. For this purpose he had dismantled the vessels of war which were in the Bay, and had drawn them under the mole. He had also commanded an immense number of troops from the interior to man the fortresses. This news was brought to Gibraltar on the 19th ult. by the Phæton frigate, which had been despatched by the Admiral.

Letters from Gibraltar, of the 18th of March, communicate some particulars relative to the blockading squadron off Algiers, which are not without interest. It appears that the Dey has obstinately refused to accede to the terms proposed to him by the British Admiral; but that his own officers are, for the greater part, determined to resist his authority, as they are by no means disposed to undergo the horrors of a bombardment. An an attempt was even made upon his life on the 15th March, which very narrowly missed success. Up to the 17th no attack had been made by the British squadron, and it was still expected that differences would be adjusted. These letters state that accounts had been received from the Morea of unfortunate differences between the Greek chiefs; but we are happy in being able, from direct channels, to state that these differences have been removed.

The following statement on the doings of parliment relative to the *slave trade*, is from the Daily Adveriser:

SLAVE TRADE. The Royal assent was given, on the 31st of March, to the Act of the British parliament for punishing the Slave Trade, as piracy. It was hurried through the House of Lords on the statement of Earl Bathurst, that unless news of its passing should reach the United States before the adjournment of the session of Congress, the Convention between Great Britain and the United States could not be carried into effect, as the sanction of Congress was necessary.

The following items are from London papers:—

The quarter's revenue, ending on the 5th of April, as compared with the quarter of the preceeding year, exhibits an increase of 1,328,404 pounds.

The silk weavers are beseeching parliament not to pass the clause repealing the prohibition regarding foreign silk.

Disturbances continue in Ireland. Two men had been burnt alive in the county of Wexford. In Cork and Kilkenny counties many outrages have been committed.

An account that fifty-eight Greek vessels had arrived at the mouth of the Dardanelles, had caused great consternation at Constantinople.

A Trading Company of from 12 to 24 millions of florins is forming at Amsterdam.

The affairs of the Greeks continue to flourish—Lord Byron leads a division of the army—and they have Englishmen, Frenchmen, Prussians, Italians, Americans in their service.

Egypt is expected to send 30,000 bags of cotton to England this season—and contemplates the cultivation of Indigo. A passage to and from England is performed in from 25 to 40 days.

The British government have ordered a commission to inquire into the actual state of the peasantry in the county of Galway; a portion of them is represented to be in an actual state of starvation.

In the House of Commons on the 13th, in reply to Mr Huskisson, on the subject of converting foreign wheat into flour, Mr Kerwin said he feared there was a great probability that the ports of G. Britain would open for the introduction of foreign grain on the 5th of August.

EXTRAORDINARY DISPATCH. The ship Emerald, of Boston, Philip Fox, Commander, sailed from Liverpool on the 20th of February, arrived at Boston on the 9th of March, (17 days passage) sailed from Boston on the 21st of March, and arrived at Liverpool on the 13th April, being absent only 53 days from Liverpool.

In consequence of the dispute with the Algerines, the premiums of insurance at Malta have been greatly increased. On vessels bound to the eastward, with convoy, the charge is 50 per cent. on the premiums, and without convoy, 100 per cent. On vessels bound westward, without convoy, the premium has arisen to 200 per cent. Algiers is closely blockaded.

Massachusetts Legislature.

WEDNESDAY, May 26. The following paragraph from the Daily Advertiser will show the principal business of this day:—"The members of the General Court assembled yesterday at the State House in obedience to the Constitution, and a quorum of both Houses was formed at an early hour. Notice being given to the Governor the members were qualified, by taking the oaths in the usual form, and the two Houses proceeded to organize by choosing their officers. In the Senate the Hon. Mr Silsbee was re-chosen President, and Mr Willard, Clerk, without opposition. In the House Mr Jarvis was re-elected speaker, and Mr Warren, Clerk, without opposition. The committees usually appointed on the first day of the session were then appointed; after which the members of the two Houses, joined the Governor and Council, and went in procession, escorted by the Independent Cadets to the Old South Church, to attend public worship. The election Sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr Sharp."

In the HOUSE among other things it was ordered:—

That one member from each Congressional district be appointed to consider in what manner the Legislature shall direct the appointment of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

That no petition be received by this House after Wednesday next.

A petition of James Sabine and others, praying to be incorporated as *The First Presbyterian Church and Society in the City of Boston*, was laid on the table until the annual standing committees are appointed.

In the SENATE, on Thursday the Secretary was directed to give notice to George Grennell, jr. and John Nevers, Esq. of their election as Senators for the district of Franklin.

Petition of the Amherst Institution—of Wm. Cogswell and others—Edw. St. L. Livermore—Selectmen of Charlestown—were severally read and committed.

A committee was appointed to consider the expediency of altering, amending, or repealing, the law describing the duty and powers of Coroners, and the several acts in addition.

In the House, eleven new members appeared and were qualified to take their seats.

A committee was appointed to revise the law relating to sheriffs.

Twenty-two petitions were presented. A joint committee of the Senate and House was appointed to wait on the Governor and Lieut. Governor, to inform them of their election. After this duty was performed they soon appeared and were qualified by taking the usual oaths.

According to the report of the Committee of the Legislature on the returns of votes for Governor, the whole number of votes is 73,051, of which 38,650 are for Gov. Eustis, 34,210 for Mr Lathrop, and 191 scattering. Gov. Eustis' majority last year over Mr Otis was 4,232, his majority now over Mr Lathrop is 4,440, making an increased majority of 208. The whole number of votes officially returned is 7,721 greater than last year.

The votes for Lieut. Governor are 72,227, of which 38,017 are for Mr Morton, and 33,917 for Mr Sullivan, and 223 scattering. Mr Morton's majority over Mr Sullivan is 4100.

Congressional Proceedings.

The proceedings of Congress during the week following our last account have been of rather an interesting character, though we are unable to give them much in detail.

The Tariff Bill, which has been so long before Congress, has finally passed both Houses of Congress, and only waits the signature of the President, in order to become a law. It has been greatly changed from its original form, and probably is far from being satisfactory to those who were most earnest in calling up the subject at first.

The House of Representatives has fixed upon Thursday, May 27, as the day of adjournment, and the Senate has concurred.

The Committee on the subject of the charges of Mr Edwards, against Mr Crawford, were expected to report immediately. It was not expected that Mr Edwards would arrive before the adjournment of Congress.

MARRIED,

In Kennebunk, by the Rev. Mr Fletcher, Mr Stephen Sewall, of Boston, to Miss Matilda Sewall, daughter of Daniel Sewall, Esq. of the former place.

In Medford, by the Rev. Mr Bigelow, Mr Jonathan Bates, merchant, of Cincinnati, Ohio, to Miss Catharine Meinzies.

In this city, by the Rev. Mr Palfrey, Mr Granville J. Demeritt, of Brighton, to Miss Ruth, daugter of Mr Benj. Gardner, formerly of Salem.

In Cambridge, by the Reverend President Kirkland, Mr Geo. B. Emerson to Miss Olivia Buckminster.

In Baltimore, by the Rev. Mr Henshaw, Rev. F.W.P. Greenwood, of Boston, to Miss Maria, youngest daughter of the late Dr Lyde Goodwin.

In Brookline, by Rev. Dr Pierce, Mr Wells Coverly, of this city, to Miss Nancy Winchester, of Brookline.

In this city, by the Rev. Mr Palfrey, Mr John B. Farrier to Miss Lydia Wainwright, of Gloucester.

By the Rev. Mr Sharp, Mr Hosea Corthel to Miss Mary S. Leitner.

DIED,

Drowned, in Pittston, on the 14th inst, Mr Joseph Brown, of Hallowell. In returning home in the evening in his boat, intoxicated, he fell with his head in the water while his body remained perfectly dry in the boat, in which situation he was picked up the next morning.

In Marietta, Ohio, Gen. RUFUS PUTNAM, aged 87. Premature accounts of his death have heretofore been circulated. This is authentic. General La Fayette is now the only surviving officer of the regular army of the United States which fought the battles of the revolution.

In Middleboro', Capt. Greenleaf Pratt, 42.

In Framingham, Eli Bullard, Esq. Counsellor at law, aged 65.

In New-Bedford, Mrs Tripp, wife of Mr Rob't. Tripp.

In Cohasset, on the 22nd inst. Mrs Sally F., wife of Mr Amasa Bailey, aged 34.

In Pawtucket, Capt. Benjamin S. Walcott, aged 69.

In Edgartown, Mrs Sally, relict of Mr Joseph Swasey, aged 76.

In Baltimore, on Monday morning last, Gen. Wm. H. Winder.

In Marblehead, Jonathan Brown, aged 13.

A sail boat, with four persons on board, upset in a squall in Savannah harbor on the 13th inst. and all on board were drowned. A sail boat with three persons on board, out at the same time, is missing.

FOR Sale at the Counting Room of the Christian Register, the following valuable Theological works, on very reasonable terms:—

Campbell's Four Gospels
do. Systematic Theology
Prideaux Connexions
Griesbach Nov. Test.
Buckminster's Sermons
Priestley's Discourses
Bennett's do.
Whitby's do.
Lee's Sermons
Tappan's Works
Neal's History of the Puritans, 2 vols. Lond. 1811.
Josephus' Works, 4 vols, 8vo. Lond. 1822.
Reed's Apology for Infant Baptism.
Chalmers' Discourses.
Law's Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life.
Buck's Theological Dictionary.
Butler's Analogy of Natural and Revealed Religion.
Ostervald's Bible.
Paley's Natural Theology.
Paley's Evidences of Christianity.

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POETRY.

FADED HOURS.

By J. R. Sutermiester.

Oh! for my bright and faded hours,
When life was like a summer stream,
On whose gay banks the virgin flowers,
Blushed in the morning's rosy beam—
Or danced upon the stream that bare,
Its store of rich perfume along—
While the wood robin poured on air,
The ravishing delights of song.
The sun looked from his lofty cloud,
While flowed its sparkling waters fair—
And went upon his path-way proud,
And threw a brighter lustre there—
And smiled upon the golden heaven,
And on the earth's sweet loveliness,
Where light and joy and song were given
The glad and fairy scene to bless!
Aye, these were bright and joyous hours,
When youth awoke from boyhood's dream;
To see life's Eden dressed in flowers,
While young hope basked in morning's beam,
And proffered thanks to heaven above,
(While glowed his fond and grateful breast)
Who spread for him that scene of love,
And made him so supremely blest.
That scene of love—where hath it gone?
Where hath its charm and beauty sped?
My hours of youth that o'er me shone—
Where have their light and splendor fled?
Into the silent lapse of years—
And I am left on earth to mourn!
And I am left to drop my tears
O'er memory's lone and icy urn!
Yet, why pour forth the voice of wail,
O'er feeling's blighted coronal?
Ere many gorgeous suns shall fall,
I shall be gathered in my pall,
Oh! my dark hours on earth are few—
My hopes are crush'd—my heart is riven—
And I shall soon bid life adieu,
To seek enduring joys in heaven!

THE DEATH OF MOSES.

"*And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.*" Deut. xxxiv. 7.

A shadow passed over me, and the form
Of dying Moses on my vision rose;
Albeit he wore upon his aged brow
All that youth has of passionate and warm.
I looked once more, and saw the fatal scroll
On which 'twas writ the prophet was to die;
And o'er his face th' eternal curtains roll,
Drawn by the hand of sweet Euthanasy.
His placid cheek assumed no paler dye
When his pure spirit burst from life's controul,
Nor age had cast her dimness on his eye;
But the bright angel that received his soul
Threw such unearthly calmness in his air,
That I had never deem'd the blight of death was there.

Miscellanies.

From the Edinburgh Review.

EARLY NARRATIVE AND LYRICAL POETRY OF SPAIN.

It is difficult to look back upon this early period of Spanish literature, without some melancholy recollections, and some gloomy anticipations. No where, perhaps, are the traces of the mutability of literature more strongly marked, or exhibited in more affecting colors. Centuries have already elapsed, since Arabia, that country, that communicated to Spain and to Europe, the stores of her vast knowledge, has relapsed into her primitive barbarism. The Arab again wanders, as rude as ever, over countries as wild as before. The colleges of Bagdad, of Balsora, and Samarcand, now appear only in fiction; the vast libraries of Arabian literature are only to be traced in the collections of the Escurial; and those poets, who were once honored with the title of divine, are passed over in silence by De Herbelot. Granada, on which the Arabians had lavished all the labors of art, now owes its beauties to nature alone: the site of the Albaycin is disputed; the Generalife is a desert, and the Alhambra a ruin!

The beautiful Provençal, the first born of European languages, which had also imbibed, through its intercourse with Spain, the knowledge and refinement of the East, after a blaze of three centuries, has expired. The language, in which kings delighted to compose, in which Thibaut and Alphonso sung, and Cœur-de-lion gave vent to his feelings in prison, has already become a dead language, a labour and a study; and its troubadours, once so celebrated, are now known only by the voluminous industry of St Palaye, and the eulogies of Dante and Petrarca. Over that period of Spanish literature, which we have been considering, the same obscurity has spread. Its poets, whose compositions are now read, admired and commented on, have left behind them no trace, to which the imagination can attach itself. They have "died, and made no sign." We pass from the infancy of Spanish poetry, to the age of Charles [the fifth,] as through a long vista of monuments without inscriptions, as the traveller approaches the noise and bustle of modern Rome, through the lines of silent and unknown tombs, that border the Appian way. And who shall say, how soon the same principle of mutability may render the fall of our literature, in its turn, a subject of regret and inquiry; how soon the philosopher may have to point out the operation of those principles unseen by us, which have occasioned its decline; how soon the poet may collect and weep over its scattered fragments; and the antiquary speculate among the ruins of our palaces, as he now does in the silent chambers of the Alhambra, or the nameless temples of Palmyra or Persepolis!

Almighty God gives us faculties to use them; and it is ingratitude as well as folly to return the gift upon his hands. Truth can never suffer by an impartial examination, but on the contrary will receive strength and advantage from it. It is error and imposture alone, which dread a fair inquiry, as being conscious of their own weakness.

ANCIENT THEORIES.—COSMOGONY.

Xenophanes took the stars to be patches of clouds lighted up at night, and extinguished in the morning.

Anaxagoras considered the firmament an arch of stone, the sun an immense inflammable body, and the stars to be stones whirled up from the surface of the earth by the circumambient air, and so ignited.

Biogences declared the stars to be hot pumice stones fixed in the sphere of the heavens, serving as lamps in the night, but chiefly designed as ventilators of the world.

Others maintained that the sun was globular, hollow, and containing fire; that the light streamed through a cavity on one side, and when this was stopped, the sun was eclipsed.

Aristotle thought the universe to have eternally existed in its present state. Lencippus originated the Epicurean plan, that the universe was created by atoms. Democritus laid down that these "first magnitudes" were eternal, and that they had possessed an uniform motion and celerity. Epicurus completed the structure by the theory, that the world sprung from a collision of these atoms. Descartes' world was formed by vortices. Burnet, Whiston, Leibnitz, Kepler, Cuvier, and a multitude of others, have been popular for their several theories, and our own country may claim a high share of distinction for the *novel* and *ingenious* discoveries of John Cleves Symmes and Ira Hill.

HISTORY OF LITERATURE.

There is something at first sight, extremely melancholy in the decline of a great literature. The mind clings instinctively to what it has, and refuses to be comforted for its loss even in the prospect of a brighter futurity. But the history of literature tends at last to soften this feeling of regret. It teaches us to consider these national catastrophes only as the development of a great principle of succession, by which the treasures of mind are circulated and equalized—as shocks by which the stream of improvement is forcibly directed into new channels, to fertilize new soils, and awaken new capabilities. Zoroaster dies, but the lore of the Magi and the Chaldees is preserved by the Egyptians. Egypt sinks into decay, but the mantle of Hermes is bequeathed to Plato; and Rome rises into literary greatness when the world is beginning to retort upon the fallen Greeks, the epithet of Barbarians. Even the darkness which succeeded the dissolution of the Roman Empire was but temporary. The sun only set in Europe to rise in Asia,—pale, indeed, and obscured for a time, under the tempestuous reigns of the immediate successors of Mahomet, but re-gaining its brightness under Al Raschid and Al Maimoun. Knowledge had only completed its circle; and the western world was a second time to receive from the east the seeds of improvement and the elements of greatness.

SLAVE TRADE.

A letter published in the N. York American gives the following statement of the provisions of the late convention, relative to a mutual right of search for slaves:—

Provisions are made, *First*, that the captured vessel shall be delivered for trial and adjudication to the tribunals of the nation whose flag she assumes. *Secondly*, that neither the crew nor cargo are to be taken out of the captured vessels—except that provision is made for taking all or part of the slaves on board, when their removal shall be indispensable for the preservation of their lives or health; and even this exception is so guarded, that the slaves must be accounted for by the government of the captured vessel. *Thirdly*, that the Admiralty Court in which the captured vessel is libelled, shall have the power to award costs and damages to the sufferer against the commanding or boarding officer of the captured vessel in all cases of an abusive or vexatious exercise of this right; and his government is to cause the amount of costs and damages to be paid within one year after judgement. *Fourthly*, this right of search is only to be exercised by vessels specially commissioned for that purpose, and in that quarter of the ocean frequented by the slave traders.—*Fifthly*, a list of certificates is to be made by the captor, specifying his name, rank, &c. and the state of the captured vessel, number of slaves on board, and of the papers belonging to her.—*Sixthly*, the search is to be restricted to ascertaining whether she is engaged in the slave trade. Such are the restrictions on the exercise of this right of search, and so scrupulously guarded is our mutual concession.

SARATOGA SPRINGS.

At no period since the discovery of the springs, have the preparations for company been so great as at the present season. Besides other elegant boarding establishments, which are too well known to need commendation, the United States Hotel, which is to be completed early next month, may be considered a very important addition. The houses generally at Ballstown Spa and this place, have undergone improvements, and there are undoubtedly accommodations for at least 250 strangers more than at any former season. It may also be gratifying to our distant readers to know that the medicinal fountains continue to retain their unrivalled strength and excellence, and that the celebrity of their healing qualities is daily increasing.—*Saratoga Sentinel.*

[The springs will probably be the scene of important political intrigues this season. The partisans of the several candidates for the presidency will *accidentally* hold their assignations and concert their schemes at that place of resort to which all have a right to go without suspecting their real design.—*Salem Gazette.*]

CHANGE OF FORTUNE.

A very singular reverse of fortune has just happened to an Irishman of the name of Arthur Burns, belonging to the county of Tyrone, who at present resides in the High street, Glasgow. He came to this country a number of years ago, and has since worked in the humble capacity of a builder's labourer, and bore the character of a sober and industrious man. An uncle of his, who went to the East Indies in early life as a mer-merchant, accumulated a large fortune, and on his death-bed at Calcutta, made a will bequeathing the whole of his property in favour of his relation. The will was sent home, properly sealed by eight or ten different executors, whose names are attached to it. Inquiry was made after Burns in the north of Ireland, where it was ascertained that he long before had gone to Scotland. A messenger was immediately despatched from Dublin to this city, and careful inquiry was made among the various kinds of labourers, until he was at length traced out a few days ago, and the good news imparted to him. He was furnished with a copy of his uncle's will, appointing him sole heir to his immense property, amounting to £190,000 in cash, several valuable estates, five merchant vessels at sea, besides an inventory of furniture of the richest and most costly description; among other things are a gold table, the length and breadth, and superficial dimensions of which are stated; a bedstead mounted with gold, a pair of slippers with gold buckles, two carriages finely mounted with silver, and various other articles equally splendid. One of the vessels, called the "Margaret," is on her passage home, with some of these valuable effects, and a large stock of the choicest wines, and several puncheons of rum, consigned on behalf of Mr Burns to the care of a respectable merchant in Dublin. Mr Burns is about 40 years old, is married, but without children. None of the money or effects have yet arrived, as the will was despatched before the merchant was dead, but accounts of his decease and the arrival of the effects are daily expected. Mr Burns in the mean time has never ceased a single day from his employment, and is much less elated on the subject than might have been expected. He regularly carries home in the evening his usual bundle of sticks under his arm for fuel. As is always the case in matters of this kind, new friends and acquaintances whom he never knew before, have sprung up on every side, who are eager in their endeavours to serve him; and offers of accommodation with money are unbounded; but he declines their services, and prefers working in his homely garb and abstemious fare until he be able to touch his own. £3,000 was sent by his uncle to him in Ireland some years ago, entrusted to the care of a gentleman, who kept it, and when he failed in London, he ranked the labourer as one of the creditors. The composition was seven shillings, but he has not received it, and it would seem that his good fortune will come on him all at once.—*Glasgow paper.*

The following note was found among the private papers of the late lord Erskine:

"*To General Washington,*

"Sir,—I have taken the liberty to introduce your august and immortal name, in a short sentence, which is to be found in the book I send you.

"I have a large acquaintance among the most valuable and exalted classes of men; but you are the only human being for whom I ever felt an awful reverence.

"I sincerely pray to God to grant a long and serene evening to a life so gloriously devoted to the universal happiness of the world.

London, March 15, 1797. T. Erskine."

No person of a good heart understands Christianity, without wishing it to be true; and no person of a good judgment ever studied its evidence impartially, and with a sincere wish that it might be true, who did not really find it so.

NATURAL SCIENCE.

A work is now publishing at Weimar, in Germany, says the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, specimen pages of which have been forwarded to this country, with a view to engage the attention of authors and naturalists in the United States to the important objects of the work, who might contribute articles and furnish information which is new, in the wide range of natural science. It is conducted by scientific gentlemen of the first respectability, and the articles are not confined to German names, but are extended to almost every known country. Three volumes are to issue from the press yearly, and the work will probably be extended to 12 volumes. Eight hundred engravings are completed. It will be a treasure, and a complete encyclopædia of natural history, and we indulge a hope that it will receive liberal contributions from naturalists of this country.

Dr Johnson, in one of his letters, observes, that "small debts are like small shot; they are rattling on every side, and can scarcely be escaped without a wound; great debts are like cannon,—of loud noise, but little danger."

From a London paper.

SICK HEAD-ACHE.

To remove an attack of the sick head-ache, a correspondent in one of the monthly journals recommends the patient to take a table spoonful of ginger, mixed with a lump of sugar, in a tumbler three parts full of water, with the chill off; to sit, for a quarter of an hour, with his feet in water agreeably warm; and to apply a napkin, wrung out of cold water, to his temples or forehead, whichever part appears most affected.

APOPLEXY.

In giving the history of four classes of apoplexy, in which emetics appeared to have been exhibited with advantage, contrary to the general opinion of this practice being dangerous, Mr Swan takes occasion to remark, that apoplexy depends more frequently on the difficult transmission of blood through the lungs, or from its not being properly organized, than is imagined. A stomach overloaded by wholesome food, or containing a small quantity of indigestible food, deranges all the parts to which the *par vagum* or eight pair of nerves, are distributed, and therefore the lungs do not perform their functions; in which cases, though bleeding is absolutely required, the quantity of blood may be taken way without affording complete relief; therefore, if a person is seized with apoplexy, and bleeding has not afforded relief, and there are no symptoms of paralysis, and it is probable that the stomach contains indigested food, it is advisable to give an emetic.—*Edinburgh Journ.*

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

ON BOILING POTATOES.

Some hints similar to the following were given a few weeks since, on the subject of boiling potatoes. We insert this statement because it is more full, and because it gives a reason for the course pursued;

Seldom do we see potatoes well cooked, and still seldomer do we see them cooked without waste. By the following directions both ends will be attained. Choose your potatoes of equal size, and put them into a sauce-pan or pot without a lid, with no more water than is sufficient to cover them; more would only spoil them, as the potatoes themselves, on being boiled, yield a considerable portion of water. By being boiled in a vessel without a lid, they do not crack, and all waste is prevented. After the water is come nearly to boil, pour it off, and replace the hot by cold water, into which throw a good portion of salt. The cold water sends the heat from the surface to the heart of the potatoe, and makes it mealy. Like all other vegetables, they are improved by being boiled with salt, which ought not, therefore, to be spared. The only proper test of their being done enough, is trying them with a fork. When they are boiled with a lid, cracking is usually considered as the test of their being done enough; but they will often crack when they are quite raw in the heart. After straining off the water, they should be allowed to stand ten or fifteen minutes on the fire to dry. *Farmer's Journal.*

FRIED POTATOES.

Peel large potatoes, slice them about a quarter of an inch thick, or cut them in shavings round and round, as you would peel a lemon; dry them well in a clean cloth, and fry them in lard or dripping. Take care that your fat and frying pan are quite clean; put it on a quick fire, watch it, and as soon as the lard boils, and is still, put in the slices of potatoe, and keep moving them till they are crisp; take them up and lay them to drain on a sieve; and then sprinkle them with a very little salt. *Cook's Oracle.*

Lancaster Academy.

THE summer quarter will commence on Monday, the 31st of May.

Arrangements have been made to admit young ladies into this Seminary, and an Instructress engaged.

The terms are $6.25 per quarter—board $2.00 per week. May 28

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THIS day published, and for sale at the counting room of the Christian Register,

The Christian Minister's Affectionate Advice to a New Married Couple. By Rev. James Bean. It is a book of nearly 100 pages 18mo, and will be afforded to subscribers, neatly bound in morocco, at $2 40 per dozen. It is a work wholly of a practical character, and has been highly approved and recommended by the clergy of various denominations. Those of the clergy, or others, who may wish it, can yet obtain it at this office, by the dozen, or in greater quantities, at the above price. April 23.

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VOL. III.

Miscellanies.

NOTES UPON THE BIBL

Besides the direct appeal to ancie
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* See Mich. Int. to the New Test. vol.